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500 Things People Believe That Aren't True



Synopsis

Purgatory is never mentioned in the Bible. Most deserts aren't made of sand. Pterodactyls weren't dinosaurs. Genetically modified food existed since the Stone Age. We have no idea what Ancient Egyptians looked like. Women could vote since 1867. Fast-Food chains have existed for 1,900 years. Cryogenics doesn't involve freezing people. You can get appendicitis more than once. Holland is not The Netherlands. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon never existed.

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Customer Reviews

It's a funny book with some great facts. Sometimes the sarcastic tone is overdone, which is why I didn't give 5 stars. I have fact checked several pieces of information and all appear to be correct.

Mr. Egan is my kind of writer, infusing his dry wit in unexpected, but perfectly executed, ways. I agree about Ridley Scott - WTF?! If you like truth and aren't a slave to trend, this is a fantastic read.

i found it most enlightening to read about some everyday things that people believe that aren't true as well as some more obscure ones that I hadn't even heard of. All-in-all I enjoyed reading the book and will do so again as there is so much content that it can't all be remembered in one go.

Some interesting stuff but there are also some fact-free opinions. Never believe everything you read.

Let's face facts, this is not an historical tome. But it is well written and funny. It's a great beach read!

It's amazing how many false beliefs people have. I've heard people rant about GMOs, charter schools, the rich, and innumerable topics based upon emotion that was built upon fallacious information. Social media exacerbates the problem. Sad.

Learned a little. And relaxed a little

Sort of literary snack food - entertaining, a few surprises here and there. Recommended for an afternoon with crackers and cheese.

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